

~~Please cancel~~ claims 8-16.

~~Please amend~~ the following claims:

1. (Amended) A ballast circuit for supplying AC voltage and current to a gas discharge lamp mounted in a troffer upon the application of DC voltage and current, said troffer having a ground connection, said circuit comprising:

 a transformer including a first and a second primary winding;

 first and second transistors, each having base, collector and emitter terminals, said base terminal of each said transistor coupled to a drive terminal of said second primary winding;

 a constant current flow network coupled to said drive terminal so as to maintain said circuit in an oscillating mode;

 said first primary winding configured to be coupled across said at least one lamp such that a capacitance at a first end of said lamp relative to said transformer is equal to a capacitance at a second end of said lamp relative to said transformer; and

 a current supply source coupled to said troffer ground connection.

[wherein a net current induced via said at least one lamp and said current supply source into said troffer is substantially equal to zero.]

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claims 9-16 have been cancelled.

Claim 1 has been amended.

Claims 1-8 are hereby submitted for consideration.